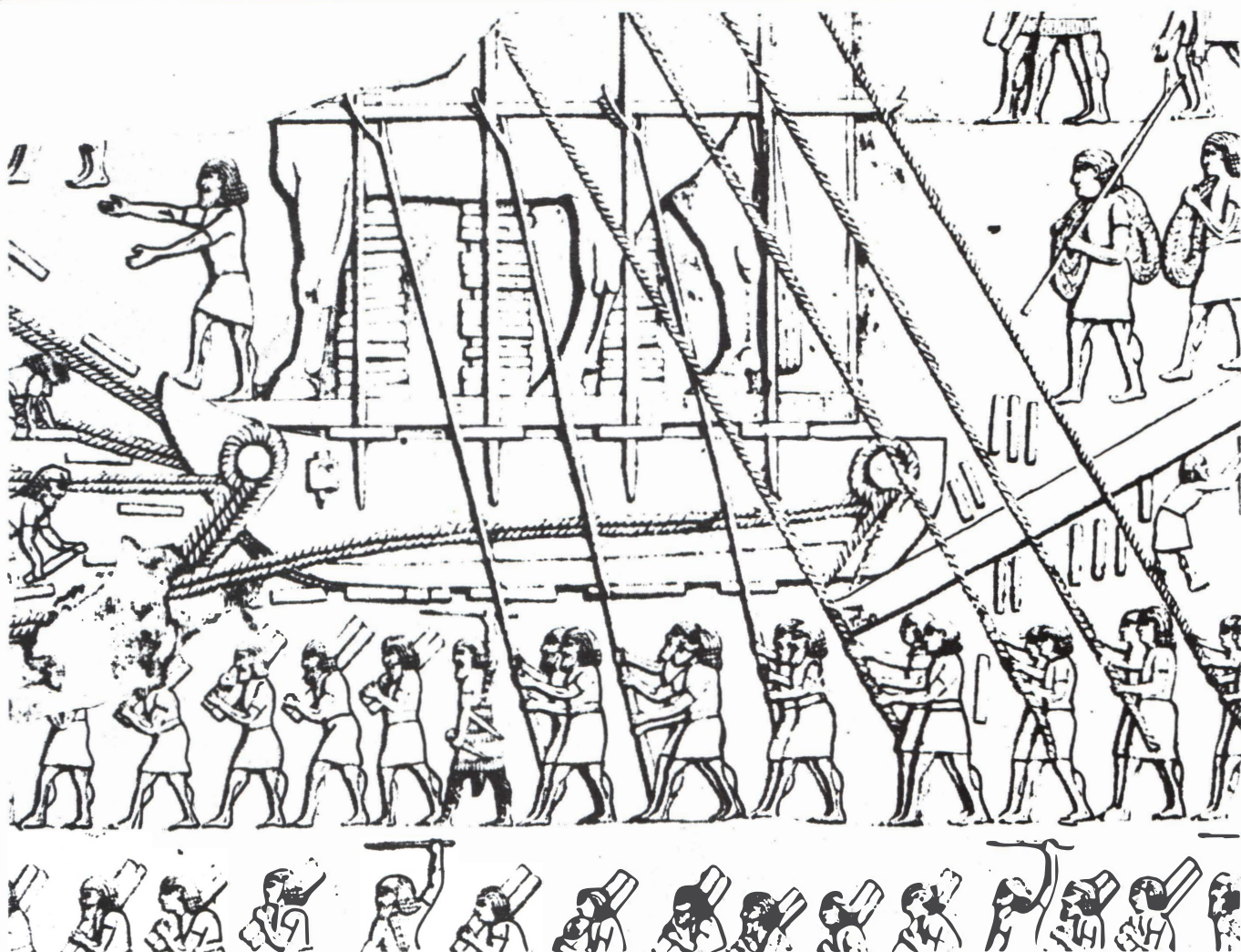


MUF06

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Editorial Panel: John Harney; John Rimmer; Peter Rogerson; Alan Sharp.



Hauling a monumental sculpture of a bull on a sledge.

Illustrations from Austen Henry Layard's 'The Monuments of Nineveh,' 2 vols. (London: 1853).

E D I T O R I A L

Archaeological Barmbots

One of the major handicaps that serious UFO researchers have had to encounter in the past few years is the linking of UFO research with a variety of barmbot ideas. One of the most persistent of these has been the "Was God an Astronaut" cult. There have been at least thirty books written on this theme, the majority of these being plagiarisms of each other; sometimes these have been plagiarisms of plagiarisms of plagiarisms. Several of these ideas seem to have come from the Soviet bloc, where all kinds of pseudo-science seem to flourish.

The claims of Von Daniken and his friends have been examined by Roger Sandell, who has made a special study of the historical antecedents of the UFO phenomenon. In his article, published in this issue of MUFOB, he demolishes several of the claims of these people and points out that many of their statements clearly demonstrate their ignorance of some of the most basic facts of archaeology.

The material included in the article is only a representative sample of the material that Sandell has obtained in the course of a year's concentrated study, which included attending evening courses in Ancient History, and extensive searching to double-check material.

UFO EVIDENCE IN AN AMERICAN RESERVOIR?

Alan W Sharp takes a critical look at the classic Loch Raven Dam case

On the evening of Sunday, October 28, 1958, two friends were out driving in the outskirts of the city of Baltimore, Maryland, at about 10.30 p.m.

The winding road took them past Loch Raven Dam on an allegedly dark, moonless, clear and starry night, bereft of any bright planets. No wind was reported, so that calm conditions likely prevailed.

No information is given--in the original report by Jacques Vallee--concerning the existence of human habitations or street lights (except that staff in a "nearby" restaurant heard an explosion at 10.45 p.m.) but of course there is always some light in the vicinity of any large town. Nor is any such information available in the more recent treatment by Hynek (2), who incorrectly places the reservoir in Delaware (Appendix I, p 239). Neither of these authors offers any explanation for the UFO sighting which the two friends, Mr C and Mr S, then made as they approached the first bridge across the lake. The case is presented as yet another mysterious item of alleged UFO evidence.

Rounding a right-handed bend they approached the bridge from a northerly direction, with a cliff on the left and the water to their right only to see, floating above the bridge, a mysterious and alarming "egg-shaped" object about 100 feet in diameter and about the same in height at an estimated 75 to 100 feet above the superstructure of the bridge, a modified Pratt truss steel structure about twenty feet high at the top points of its two independent spans. Thus the UFO was, according to Messrs C and S, one hundred feet or more off the ground at roadway level, though it seems likely that this figure was an

overestimate.

On first noticing the hovering UFO the men were travelling at between 20 and 30 m.p.h., at a distance of some 200 to 300 yards from the bridge, but speed was immediately reduced to around 10-12 m.p.h. Eventually, when the car was a mere 25 yards from the bridge it suddenly stopped, the engine went dead and all the lights went out. Just as well, perhaps, for otherwise the intrepid friends, who thought the object might have been some sort of "blimp" (balloon) would have found themselves on the bridge more or less immediately under the UFO!

Turning the ignition on failed to energise the starter motor and Messrs C and S were now "pretty frightened". Nevertheless they contrived to observe the UFO through the windscreen (which must have been difficult in view of the UFO's--by then--presumably highly elevated position) for an unspecified length of time before getting out of the car and running behind it for some protection. (How this position helped is hard to see if the object under surveillance was so close, so high and so large as it was reported to be.)

After a further lapse of about half a minute during which they were now "terrified" (S) the UFO, which had "been glowing with an iridescent glow", seemed to flash "a brilliant flash of white light" (C) and "seemingly gave off a terrifically bright light" (S) whilst "at the same time we felt a tremendous heat wave" (S) and "both felt heat on our faces" (C); but: "It didn't seem like the heat of a burning object but something like an ultraviolet light or some kind of radiation". (S)

Concurrently with the flash of bright light there was a loud noise, described as a "dull explosion" by C and as a "tremendous thunder" by S. This was the sound heard by the other people in a "nearby" restaurant. "Then very quickly, so that you couldn't get the proper sequence of events, the object started to rise vertically. The only different feature it had while it was moving was that it was very bright and the edges became very diffused so that we couldn't make out the shape as it rose. It took from five to ten seconds to disappear from view completely. We were very frightened".

The two men thereupon got in their car, which now functioned normally, and drove home poste haste to report their experiences to the police. They asked the policemen if they had noticed if the witnesses' faces were red but the police said they had not.

Subsequently the two men went to a local hospital for a check-up and a doctor said C's face was slightly red, but S's was not. Next day S said that his face was noticeably a little redder. He later remarked: "I hoped what I did see would add to the national interest or national information that would maybe help understand these things a little better". "I do know there are at least such things now as UFOs".

The experience had become a UFO sighting of the "close encounter" type and displayed a good many familiar, awesome overtones. Putting these aside however, what did the sighting amount to?

Two men saw an unexpected object which they considered bore some resemblance to a Naval "blimp" (balloon) stationary a short distance above the ground. After a few minutes they witnessed a bright flash of light from the object and simultaneously heard the sound of an explosion. The object then quickly rose up and disappeared.

The answer is simple. The UFO was a balloon, a large, partly deflated balloon carrying a payload. The payload was jettisoned by the activation of an explosive charge (3) and the balloon, lightened of its burden, quickly rose up out of sight. The battery on the balloon, evidently run down, was unable to provide much current to the balloon's light until after the severance when the light came on

and illuminated the underside of the fabric.

No doubt the payload, which might already have been partially submerged, disappeared into the lake, probably on the north side of the bridge judging from a photograph in Vallee's book, but the men were too excited to hear any splash there may have been. Presumably this payload is still lying on the bottom of the reservoir. Someone should go and retrieve it, just out of interest. It might also be of some scrap value.

As far as the car electrical malfunctioning is concerned, if Venus can perform this feat from a distance of over twenty million miles, why not a balloon from a hundred feet or so? One is reminded of the case mentioned by Craig on page 761 of the Condon Report (4) where a cylindrically-shaped balloon released from Boulder, Colorado, eventually found its way to the Azores, where it was sighted--and stopped all the clocks! For some reason one never reads of the most likely reason for malfunctions of car electrics, namely loose or dirty contacts and run-down batteries. Such things are common sources of failure, especially in autumn and winter.

Why do the cars (often) start again after a while? Because bad contacts have improved and/or batteries recover sufficiently when relieved of load for a time.

My advice to ufologists? Don't take too much notice of ufological electrical failures in cars and, if you live within striking distance, go and recover the lost treasure of Loch Raven, provided the authorities haven't beaten you to it. They may not have done so, however, for the good reason that neither the USAF nor Project Blue Book evaluated the sighting at the time and no-one (including Drs Vallee and Hynek) has been able to do so since.

References

1. VALLEE, JACQUES and JANINE Challenge to Science. Neville Spearman, London. 1966. (pp 191-194)
2. HYNEK, J ALLEN The UFO Experience; a scientific enquiry. Abelard Schuman. 1972. (pp 215, 221, 222)
3. Scientific Study of Unidentified Flying Objects. Bantam Books. 1969. (pp 755-760)
4. Ibid., pp 760-761.

This article was written following a request for an opinion on the case which is mentioned, without explanation, by Hynek in (2).

ARCHAEOLOGISTS AND ASTRONAUTS

by Roger Sandell

Charles Fort made the suggestion that certain mysteries of archaeology could be explained by postulating the existence of extraterrestrial visitants in prehistoric times. As usual it is hard to say how seriously Fort himself took this idea but, with the growth of ufology in the 1950s, several writers, such as M K Jessup and Desmond Leslie, developed similar ideas.

However, these writers were apparently unknown to the Sunday Mirror which in 1969 ran a serialisation of Erich von Daniken's "Chariots of the Gods?", a book proposing similar theories, which according to the Mirror were "new", "amazing" and "revolutionary". (The Mirror's ignorance of previous writers in the same field cannot have been dispelled by von Daniken's own reluctance to acknowledge

his predecessors.) As a result of the attention attracted by this book, it was followed by a sequel, "Return to the Stars", and several similar works by other writers, such as Peter Kolosimo's "Not of this World". What evidence do these writers have for their beliefs? Is it necessary to rewrite the early history of man so as to include an extraterrestrial visitation?

The obvious first question is when this ETV (extraterrestrial visitation) took place. Here there are no clear answers. No ETV advocate seems capable of producing evidence that at one particular time and place a unique interference with human history took place. Instead we are merely given a jumble of "mysteries" from Egypt, Rome, Japan, Mexico, etc., dating from many different eras. Thus although von Daniken's ETV seems to have occurred in Old Testament times, he devotes a great deal of space to the statues of Easter Island and the cities of the Mayas, both of which date from about 1000 AD. At times this ignorance of dates can reach quite grotesque levels. Thus Arthur Shuttlewood's "Warnings from Flying Friends" includes a map purporting to show how "prehistoric" white horse hill figures in Wiltshire are somehow linked with UFO sightings. In fact only two Wiltshire white horses have any claim to be prehistoric and the rest are less than 300 years old. (1)

Worse than this ignorance is the total credulity of the ETV advocates. For them one source seems as good as another and so their books mingle the findings of genuine archaeologists with those of cranks and charlatans. A blatant example that occurs in several ETV books is the citing of the "Book of Dzyan" as evidence for "lost civilisations". Von Daniken describes this book as follows:

"No-one in the world knows its real age. For thousands of years this esoteric doctrine was guarded in Tibetan crypts. By unknown routes its teachings reached Japan, India and China, and traces of its ideas are even found in South American traditions. The first fathers of the Church made every effort to erase this secret doctrine. Yet all their efforts failed and the texts were transmitted orally from generation to generation". (2)

In fact there is not one word of truth here. "The Book of Dzyan" was composed in the 1890s by the occultist Madame Blavatsky, allegedly via automatic writing. Its contents have been described as "based on contemporary scientific and occult writings plagiarised without credit and used in a blundering manner". (3)

Examples like this could be multiplied. (4) Otto Binder, another ETV writer, quotes an alleged "7,000 year old Babylonian text", which he states describes the building of a UFO. (5) If this document exists it is most remarkable, apart from any ufological significance, since it is 3,000 years older than the earliest known written texts, which come from Sumeria, c. 2,000 BC, and even older than the foundation of Babylon, c. 1,000 BC!

This type of blunder could clearly only be made by those who rush into print without bothering to acquire an elementary knowledge of the subjects they discuss. But, of course, not all their evidence is based upon hoaxes. Structures such as the Pyramids and Stonehenge which figure prominently in ETV books are real enough. Do they provide any more convincing evidence?

Here again the answer is no. The main claim made is that these structures could only have been built by a superior technology. However there is no real mystery about the methods used to build the pyramids. Carvings from the ancient Middle East clearly show huge stones being dragged by gangs of slaves (6) and on one pyramid the gangs have actually left graffiti in which they boast of their prowess in hauling the stones. (7) That this method of construction was perfectly feasible is demonstrated by one rope found in an ancient Egyptian quarry, which was 1 1/2 inches across and when tested proved to

to have a breaking strain of 75 tons. (8)

As a fully documented example of the way in which considerable feats of engineering are possible without an advanced technology there is the case of Dominico Fontana, one of the Pope's engineers during the 16th century. On one occasion Fontana managed to raise upright a hundred ton column relying, as the engineers of the ancient world had done, entirely on human and animal power. (9)

Stonehenge offers equally little evidence for an ETV. Here the main error of the theorists is that they exaggerate the primitiveness of British culture at the period of the building of Stonehenge, in an attempt to prove that its builders must have come from elsewhere. Thus John Keel states that the Britons of this time were "A small group of people barely out of the Stone Age (who) had a few primitive tools made of bones". (10) He must have got this impression from cartoons showing the builders of Stonehenge as ape-like figures dragging their wives by the hair, for the facts are very different. Around 1600 BC, when the major work on Stonehenge was done, Britain was the home of a reasonably advanced culture producing a variety of artefacts such as pottery and jewellery and in contact with the developing civilisation of Greece.

Another favourite piece of ETV evidence is the theory of Gerald Hawkins that Stonehenge is an astronomical computer. (11) Although the ETV theorists usually state this as a fact, this idea is merely a theory, although certainly not a crackpot one. However one would have thought that extraterrestrials with cranes, anti-gravity machines or whatever they used to build Stonehenge could have found an easier way of predicting astronomical cycles than erecting huge monuments.

To sum up, the ETV advocates have failed to establish their case. Much of it is based on misunderstanding and mis-statement. Where it touches on historical facts it explains nothing.

Further reading

The whole field of fringe archaeological theories is dealt with in "Lost Tribes and Sunken Continents" by Robert Wauchope and two books by L Sprague du Camp, "Lost Continents" and "Citadels of Mystery". Although these books do not mention the ETV theory, several of their conclusions are still relevant. Du Camp has also written "The Ancient Engineers" which explains what is really known of early technology. A full length attack on von Daniken, "Crash go the Chariots" by Clifford Wilson, has recently been published in the USA, but I have not seen it.

Postscript

Since this article was written von Daniken has published a new book, "The Gold of the Gods", dealing with archaeological discoveries he claims to have made in South America. I have not had time to examine these claims in sufficient detail to comment on their authenticity or archaeological importance. However they do not appear to add anything to the ETV case.

Notes and references

- 1 MARPLES, M White Horses and other Hill Figures.
- 2 VON DANIKEN, ERICH Return to the Stars.
- 3 SPRAGUE DU CAMP, L Lost Continents.
- 4 For further examples see: CREIGHTON, G "But I read it in a book", Flying Saucer Review, 19:1; DAVIES, P, "The Piri Reis Map", Flying Saucer Review, 18:2; Mailbag, Flying Saucer Review, 18:5.

- 5 BINDER, OTTO Flying Saucers are Watching Us.
- 6 One is shown in MUMFORD, LEWIS, The Myth of the Machine (reproduced on the cover of this Bulletin).
- 7 EDWARDS, I E S Pyramids of Egypt.
- 8 BURY, J Pelican History of Greece.
- 9 HOGGEN, L Men, Missiles and Machines.
- 10 KEEL, JOHN A Our Haunted Planet.
- 11 BIBBY, C 4,000 Years Ago.
- 12 HAWKINS, GERALD S Stonehenge Decoded.

Two other articles on the same theme are:

- (a) CREIGHTON, GORDON "A Russian wall painting and other 'spacemen'", Flying Saucer Review, 11:4.
 (b) MILLS, DONALD E "Chariots of the Gods?--not proven", BUFORA Journal, 3:1.

INTERNATIONAL CATALOGUE OF TYPE I UFO REPORTS

compiled by Peter Rogerson

- ✓108 1930 (approx. date) 2130 (approx.) TOMINTOUL (SCOTLAND)
 Alexander Irvine and a friend were walking in Smiddy Lane when they saw a white light "like a meteor". This light brightened, and in it a number of figures could be seen moving. It was regarded locally as a prevision of a nun's funeral.
 (MacGregor Ghost Book, p 200)
- ✓109 December 1930 night SALISBURY (ENGLAND)
 As Mr Stoneham was driving on the Salisbury-Banford road, he saw a black mist approach him; inside it was some object of indeterminate shape. As the mist seemed to envelope his lorry, projections resembling "luminous gory hands" seemed to grasp at him.
 (O'Donnell, Haunted Britain, p 79)
- ✓110 June 1932 late evening WATTSBURG (PENNSYLVANIA)
 Reuben Knight, a farmer 5 km from Wattsburg, saw a glowing blue sphere, c. 30 cm. diameter, approach from woods 400m. away, to within 1.30m. It weaved in and out of the wood at very low altitude. Speed about 55 k.p.h.
 (Mysteries of the Skies, 109)
- ✓111 January 1933 2400 RAHOY, MORVEN (SCOTLAND)
 Mr and Mrs Newton saw a light approach rather dim, then suddenly brighter. A smaller light then joined it, and the two vanished by a vitrified fort.
 (MacGregor Ghost Book, 222)
- ✓112 Summer 1933 morning CHRYSVILLE (PENNSYLVANIA)
 A man observed a faint violet light in a field between this town and Morrestown. Walking to it, he found an ovoid object 3 m in diameter and 2 m thick with a circular opening similar to a vault door. Pushing it, he found the room full of violet light and observed many instruments, but no occupants. He noticed a smell of ammonia.
 (M43; APRO, July 1964)
- ✓113 Summer 1933 LANGTRASK (SWEDEN)
 The permanent curate observed a mysterious machine like a monoplane twelve times during the summer. On one occasion the craft descended to a few metres altitude and two persons were seen in the cabin.
 (Keel II, 128; FSR 16:4)

- ✓ 114 Summer 1933 2130 approx. BINGHAM (NEW MEXICO)
Holm Bursum Jr. was about to turn off US 380 onto the road leading to his ranch, south of Bingham, when he saw a red glow at the foot of the Oscura Mountains, 8 km. away. It came from a lighted object which began moving erratically westwards at low altitude, eventually becoming invisible.
(Mysteries of the Skies, 111)
- ✓ 115 8 January 1934 HOLMOGADD (SWEDEN)
The lighthouse keeper Mr Rutkvist observed something like an aeroplane manoeuvre low near the island of Grasundet. It hovered, slowly spiralled down, ascending again when it got close to the surface of the water.
(FSR 16:3)
- ✓ 116 10 January 1934 evening KVALOJ (NORWAY)
An aerial machine was observed to land. 15 minutes later it took off again and rapidly vanished.
(FSR 17:4)
- ✓ 117 10 January 1934 evening GJESLINGEN ISLAND (NORWAY)
A loud noise like an engine was heard, and an aerial object carrying a strong beam of light landed on the water. When the machine landed the light was extinguished. The machine remained floating on the water for $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours.
(Keel II, 131; FSR 17:4)
- ✓ 118 11 January 1934 RORTRASK (SWEDEN)
An aerial machine was seen at very low altitude as if about to land; it lit up the entire forest. Suddenly it accelerated and followed the Skelleftea river.
(FSR 17:4)
- ✓ 119 12 January 1934 evening SLEIPSKAR ISLAND (NORWAY)
Beams of light and engine noises were observed throughout the area. An aerial machine was seen to land on the water off Sleipskar.
(FSR 17:4)
- ✓ 120 13 January 1934 VIKNA (NORWAY)
Some residents of a nearby island reported the landing of an aerial machine on Vikna.
(FSR 17:4)
- ✓ 121 13 January 1934 OKSBOSEN (NORWAY)
An aerial craft was seen to land here.
(FSR 17:4)
- ✓ 122 23 January 1934 TROMSØ (NORWAY)
Captain Sigvard Olsen and the crew of the Norwegian freighter "Tordenskiold" observed a large grey-coloured object resembling an aeroplane manoeuvre at very low altitude, and project a blinding beam of light onto the ship. A man wearing an anorak and goggles was seen in the cabin of the machine.
(Keel II, 131; FSR 17:4)
- ✓ 123 February 1934 evening DOLLIS HILL, LONDON (ENGLAND)
On a cold, wet evening, Mr and Mrs Sutton observed a cylindrical machine with two men in peaked caps standing a few metres away. Thinking it was an omnibus and crew the couple approached, but the machine moved off without the two men, apparently empty. There was no omnibus route in the area. Cf case 127.
(Bardens I, 121)
- ✓ 124 5 February 1934 evening MALSELV (NORWAY)
People on both sides of Fager mountain saw an aerial machine "crash land" on the mountain. The next day a kind of aeroplane was seen on the mountain, with two men near it, clearing snow. Engine sounds were heard. Rescuers found no machine, but traces and footprints were discovered.
(FSR 17:4)

- ✓ 125 15 February 1934 1200 MELBO (NORWAY)
A huge aerial machine with two wings was seen flying close to the water of Boroy-sund, as if to land. It travelled southwards and the noise of an engine could be heard.
(FSR 17:4)
- ✓ 126 31 March 1934 (approx. date) evening SANDNESSJOEN (NORWAY)
Five persons, including a 16-year-old boy, observed a huge aerial machine, like an aeroplane, with eight engines, descend over Altenfjord. It moved in wide circles, showing all sides. It had lighted windows.
(FSR 17:4)
- ✓ 127 June 1934 (approx. date) night DOLLIS HILL, LONDON (ENGLAND)
Mr Durwan saw a glowing object pass his house, brilliantly illuminating his room. Moments later a car crashed into his wall. When Durwen went to his aid the driver revealed he crashed while avoiding a lighted object resembling an omnibus. It appeared to be unoccupied. Cf case 123.
(Bardens I, 121)
- ✓ 128 May 1935 GEORGIAN BAY (ONTARIO, CANADA)
Mr and Mrs Cliff Foster were walking on the beach when they saw a light "the size of a Japanese orange" at 1m. altitude, approach to within c. 65 cm. Mr Foster threw a large rock at it, but without effect. The light then moved away towards the lake at walking pace.
(SSS, 59)
- ✓ 129 11 February 1937 2115 KVALSIK (NORWAY)
Just outside Kvalsik the crew of the fishing boat "Fram" observed a large object like an aeroplane with red and green lights, resting on the water. As the boat headed towards it, the machine extinguished its lights and disappeared in a cloud of smoke.
(Keel II, 135; FSR 17:5)
- ✓ 130 24 October 1937 MYLINGSLYKTEN (NORWAY)
Near this town, outside Hammerfest, a fishing boat with a crew of six encountered a very large object like an aeroplane resting on the water. As they approached, the machine turned on bright lights and took off, passing so close to the boat that a collision was feared.
(FSR 17:5)
- ✓ 131 1938 afternoon MINNEAPOLIS (MINNESOTA)
Harvey L Sperry (13) saw a doughnut-shaped cloud-like object, composed of "two interwoven parts revolving in opposite directions". The white-coloured object was travelling at about 10 kph, at less than 30 m. altitude.
(Mysteries of the Skies, 136)
- ✓ 132 6 April 1933 (approx. date) HARTLEPOOL (ENGLAND)
Robert Wake, mate of the Newcastle collier "Birtley", reported an aerial machine plunging into the sea about 5 km ahead of his vessel. A column of flame, which rapidly dissolved, was thrown up. No wreckage was reported.
(Russell, 148)
- ✓ 133 7 April 1933 (approx. date) DUDGEON (ENGLAND)
The crew of the Hull steamer "Pole" observed an aerial object "burst into flames" and crash near the Dudgeon lightship.
(Russell, 143)
- ✓ 134 9 May 1933 (approx. date) DIEPPE (FRANCE)
The master of the trawler "La Barbué" saw an object plunge into the sea causing a great column of smoke. Investigations were fruitless.
(Russell, 148)

- ✓ 135 Summer 1938 2350 SOMERVILLE (MASSACHUSETTS)
 Malcolm Perry was returning from seeing his girl home when his attention was caught by a silvery, cylindrical machine, with tapering ends, moving against the wind in a westerly direction at low altitude. There were four rectangular portholes which gave off an orange glow. Figures could be seen looking down through these portholes, and Perry felt an irresistible desire to wave. He felt the figures were "old friends".
 (Mysteries of the Skies, 136; Lor. IV, 20)
- ✓ 136 25 July 1938 2330 GUADALAJARA (SPAIN)
 A military man and his assistant suddenly saw a strong white light, and then observed that it came from a dark lens-shaped object, about 11 m. in diameter, hovering about 2 m. above ground 60 m. away. Without any noise, a sort of column started to descend and two moving silhouettes were observed on this platform. A circle of blue light was projected on the ground and focussed on the witnesses, who felt a sensation of chill. The platform rose again. The two sections of the object started spinning in opposite directions. The whole craft glowed with an intense white light and flew away. The witnesses thought it was a new military device of one of the foreign combattants.
 (B2; Oscar Rey)
- ✓ 137 Autumn 1938 (or the following year) JUMINDA (ESTONIA)
 In this coastal town, two persons saw a strange "frog-man" 1 m. tall, with a round head, no neck, and a hump in front of the body. The mouth was a large straight slit, the eyes were like smaller slits. The skin was brown-green, compared to pegamoid, hands normal. The creature walked in a peculiar "but elegant" fashion, the head waving up and down while the legs moved "carefully". When pursued, the creature accelerated very fast, with feet "fluttering". About 100 m. away it vanished completely.
 (M49)
- ✓ 138 September 1938 (approx. date) LOWESTOFT (ENGLAND)
 An aerial machine fell into the sea off Lowestoft. Investigations were fruitless.
 (Russell, 148)
- ✓ 139 22 September 1938 (approx. date) LANGATTE (FRANCE)
 A "strange air-machine" fell into the sea. Searches were fruitless, and no planes were missing.
 (Russell, 148)
- ✓ 140 22 September 1938 (approx. date) FELIXSTOWE (ENGLAND)
 An aerial object fell into the sea off Felixstowe. An oil patch was later discovered, but no planes were missing.
 (Russell, 148)
- 141 p.m. MERIDAN (ENGLAND)
 Teenager, Cathie, was walking down a lane, when she encountered a
 ✓ metallic, domed structure, next to which, apparently protruding from the ground, was a row of cylindrical objects giving off smoke. Associated with the object were several tall men "adjusting something at the centre". They wore one-piece garments, had "tanned expressions", and "strange" eyes. One of the men appeared to wipe his face with a cloth. The witness claimed that subsequently she had several dream-like "trips" on a "flying saucer", where she encountered "benevolent entities". She suffered from amnesian and other psychological problems.
 (Gemini, 1:1)
- ✓ 142 1940 2230 (approx.) DALESVILLE (QUEBEC, CANADA)
 Walter and William Gunn observed an object ascend from a low hill, c. 350 m. away. A large light was seen 300 m. distance away from them. It was the apparent size of the full moon and had two or three smaller lights. It appeared to be the lower portion of some dark mass. It rose at 30 kph with a spluttering sound. It

narrowly cleared the maple trees, and was at 130 m. altitude when it passed overhead. It disappeared through a gap in the mountains.

(Mysteries of the Skies, 139)

- ✓ 143 June 1940 OAK RIDGE (TENNESSEE)
A small girl playing in the playground at the Happy Valley area observed an object hovering above some trees, 165 m. away. The object accelerated away rapidly, expelling a blueish vapour.
(Lor. IV, 21)
- ✓ 144 1942 night SOUTHERN U.S. COAST
On an island outpost of the Southern coast of the USA (exact location unknown) Sgt. Dick Wylie saw a glowing object plunge into the sea. It reappeared two minutes later, rose vertically and went out of sight. The same witness reported a similar incident in Germany in 1945. Cf case 151.
(Amazing Stories, May 1946; Farish, via Grove)
- ✓ 145 September 1943 0400 ONCATIVO (ARGENTINA)
Navarro Ocampo, driving between Rosario and Cordoba, saw a large, saucer-shaped object on the ground 500 m. to the left of the road. It glowed with a bluish-green light, made a whistling sound, rose to 100 m. alt., then left at fantastic speed. A strange metal block is said to have been found at the spot.
(M50; GEPA, December 1963)
- ✓ 146 December 1943 2230 (approx.) OSLO FJORD (NORWAY)
Seeing a strange light on the wharf, a secretary and her three companions drove in three separate cars towards the spot. As they approached all three cars stalled, and the witnesses continued the journey on foot. They observed an orange, hazy object, shaped like a "church bell", which was emitting a hissing sound. Moments later, the object rose up and hovered over the water. It moved off, turning a deep blue colour, towards the open fjord at fantastic speed. There was a circular depression, 1.5 m. diameter, 1 m. deep, surrounded by melted snow.
(VAFSR, 7)
- ✓ 147 Summer 1944 afternoon QUEENS (NEW YORK)
Two boys, Carl Goepper and Fred Wieland, out cycling observed a shiny, cigar shaped object at treetop height above a small hill 30 m. away. The metallic craft hung at a "lopsided angle", and had no markings. By the time the boys had reached the top of the hill, the machine had disappeared.
(Mysteries of the Skies, 142)
- ✓ 148 Summer 1944 LE VERGER (FRANCE)
While collecting berries shortly before she reached Le Verger, 13-year-old Madeleine encountered a machine the size of a small car, grey coloured. Beside it were some dwarfs, less than 1 m. tall, in brown overalls. The witness felt paralysed for some moments, then "released". While she turned to pick up her bicycle, the machine and occupants vanished, leaving a "violent wind" blowing the trees.
(FSRCH, 12)
- ✓ 149 September 1944 dusk OLIVER SPRINGS (TENNESSEE)
Three civilian Oak Ridge employees, Messrs. Nelson, Butler and Profit, driving from Oliver to Oak Ridge, were 3 km. out of Oliver, when they observed a white object at low altitude about 15 m. ahead of their car. The object responded to changes in car speed several times before rising over Black Oak Ridge. Several persons from a nearby house also saw the object.
(Lor. IV, 23)
- ✓ 150 20 October 1944 0620 ST. PAUL (MINNESOTA)
Helen Picquette and Nellie Carlin were terrified when a brown, shiny object approached at low altitude, descending to 6 m. The machine was saucer-shaped, with black markings resembling seams. On the side of the craft was an oblong opening 30 cm. long, 15 cm. wide, emitting sparks making a crackling sound. Above the opening was a frosted window, emitting an orange light. The object shot up "like a bullet" high into the sky.
(Mysteries of the Skies, 143; Probe, November/December 1965)

- ✓ 151 1945 1945 HABEBISHOPSHHEIM (GERMANY)
An American soldier (very probably Sgt. Wylie) saw a disc-shaped object come down rapidly, oscillate and land. The site could not be found in the dark. The event took place 35 km. northwest of the town. Cf Case 144.
(M52; ATIC)
- ✓ 152 March 1945 BELFAST (MAINE)
George P Miller was out hunting when he observed an elongated object, flying very slowly, tilted towards the earth. It crashed into some trees at the end of a clearing. The enormous craft seemed undamaged as it rested briefly on the ground, then lifted again with a humming sound, started to spin, released a shower of fine silvery threads, and rose straight up, disappearing in seconds.
(M53; FS, May 1959; Probe)
- ✓ 153 March 1945 ALEUTIAN ISLANDS
Aboard the US attack transport "Delarof", 14 sailors including Robert Crawford saw a dark sphere rise out of the ocean about 800 m. away, follow a curved trajectory, and fly away after circling their ship. The sphere had a diameter of approx. 130 m.
(M54; Evidence, 30; Mysteries of the Skies, 130)
- ✓ 154 10 August 1945 0300 EAST PATERSON (NEW JERSEY)
Three musicians, Doris La Fountain, Thomas Brino and James Shaw, saw an extremely brilliant red and green triangular-shaped object approx. 22 m. from their car. The object moved on or just above the ground about the street for five to seven minutes, then ascended at high speed.
(Mysteries of the Skies, 145)
- ✓ 155 late August 1945 0440 LANGEIMAVESI (FINLAND)
Ilona Johansson-Paasonen was awakened by a brilliant beam of light flooding into the room. On looking through his window the witness saw a brilliant ball of light approaching from Sahalahti, 4 km. away across the lake. Diameter 10 m. The witness threw himself down in terror as the ball got within c. 250 m. When he looked up the light had disappeared, but on the water was something resembling "a canoe in a big glass bubble". Two men in green overalls were in the craft, one at each end. As it neared the pier the craft turned away to the left. As the strange machine was approaching, a neighbour's Lapp dog was seen to be in a state of great agitation.
(Vimana; BUFORA Journal, 3:3)
- ✓ 156 Autumn 1945 2330 WATERVILLE (MAINE)
Two persons observed a disc-shaped object land and then take off again outside the Waterville airport.
(FS, June 1970)
- ✓ 157 14 March 1946 0500 (approx.) HAVANA (ILLINOIS)
Robert Cummings Jr and Douglas Gowdy were driving along US 136, 16 Km. east of Havana, when they saw a luminous orange ball, about 6 m. diameter, approaching rapidly only 30 cm. above the roadway. As the light approached within 650 M, they fled the car and lay in a ditch, believing they were witnessing an atomic explosion. When they looked up again a couple of minutes later, the object had gone.
(Lor. IV, 26)
- ✓ 158 May 1946 evening ANGELHOLM (SWEDEN)
Industrialist Gosta Carlsson was collecting pollen for his bees when he observed a light among the trees. In a clearing was a disc-shaped machine, 16 m. diameter, 4 m. thick, with a cupola. The cupola had oval windows and was surmounted by a projection which gave off purple light. Beneath the machine were an oblong "fan", two legs, a small ladder, and openings. Beyond the craft stood a man in white, close fitting overalls, who gestured for the witness to halt. At this point Carlsson was only 10 m. from the machine. There were ten other occupants in or

around the craft, three of them women. The occupants had dark boots and gloves, and wore transparent helmets. The first man pointed a box at the witness, shutting off his miner's helmet light. One of the women threw an object at him. Carlsson went away, returning by a different route half an hour later, just in time to see the machine take off trailing jets from the openings along the bottom. Marks were left on the ground, and are still visible after all these years.

(FSR 18:2)

- ✓ 159 Summer 1946 1430 WASHINGTON (DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA)
Airman 2nd Class William L Witt observed through an artillery scope a large top or diamond-shaped object, with rounded ends—red colour. It was spinning counter-clockwise, and descending with a tumbling motion, at about 65 kph. It approached a clump of trees, rose above them, then descended again. It crossed from the southwest to the northeast horizon in about 3 minutes.
(Mysteries of the Skies, 143)
- ✓ 160 9 July 1946 NORRBY (SWEDEN)
An object surrounded by fire fell from the sky. Nothing further was said.
(FSR 15:2)
- ✓ 161 11 July 1946 noon OREBRO (SWEDEN)
A triangular object, 20 m. in breadth, fell into the sea towards the east.
(FSR 15:2)
- ✓ 162 11 July 1946 1430 NJURUNDA (SWEDEN)
The pilot Mr Linden and his family were having tea when a sphere, so large it obscured the sun, descended at 40 degrees over the treetops, trailing a luminous wake. It crashed onto the beach near where some children were playing. There was a crater 2 m. diameter, in which was some dark, porous substance which irritated the fingers.
(FSR 15:2)
- ✓ 163 19 July 1946 (approx. date) 1200 LAKE MJOSA (NORWAY)
Farmer Sigvat Skaug, his wife and two children, heard a sound like a violent wind, and two cigar-shaped machines, 2 m. long, with wings 1 m. long extending from their bodies, passed overhead so low that Mrs Skaug and her daughter, who were nearest, had to duck their heads. The air from the objects bent the trees as they passed over them. The two objects fell simultaneously into the lake, throwing up the water several metres.
(FSR 15:2)
- ✓ 164 22 July 1946 NORBOTTEN (SWEDEN)
A large object fell into a lake, leaving a large hole in the mud at the bottom.
(FSR 15:2)
- ✓ 165 29 July 1946 ÖVERKALIX (SWEDEN)
A rocket-shaped construction, 3 m. long with painted lettering on the side, entered Lake Kolmjervsjön.
(FSR 15:2)
- ✓ 166 8 August 1946 (exact location unknown) CENTRAL SWEDEN
A motorist heard a whistling sound and a few moments later an object passed his car at a distance of 10 m. and altitude of 3 m.
(FSR 15:3)
- ✓ 167 9 August 1946 late night STOCKHOLM (SWEDEN)
A fireball fell to the earth.
(FSR 15:3)
- ✓ 168 12 August 1946 2100 GÖTEBORG (SWEDEN)
An object shaped somewhat like a fish was seen to fall silently from the sky.
(FSR 15:3)

- 169 13 August 1946 UDDEVALLA (SWEDEN)
 ✓ Three fishermen observed a rotating object emitting a shower of sparks fall into the water nearby.
 (FSR 15:3)
- ✓ 170 13 August 1946 2000 KARLSKRONA (SWEDEN)
 A cigar-shaped object, 1.5 m. long, passed by at a distance of 50 m. The body emitted a faint green light and smoke was given off from the rear.
 (FSR 15:3)
- ✓ 171 22 August 1946 WATERFORD (IRELAND)
 An aerial object plunged into the harbour, causing the water to froth and boil.
 (Russell, 152)
- 172 10 May 1947 2300 CHESTER (ENGLAND)
 Mr Fortt and a companion were exercising their dogs in a field when they observed an oval object "like two soup bowls, one on top of another" approaching. It was metallic, emitting a red glare, and had a row of bright lights in the centre. The machine was descending at a shallow angle. A faint humming noise could be heard. When Mr Fortt called out to his companion at the other end of the field, the object moved away at "terrific" speed.
 (DIGAP)
- 173 June 1947 2300 DOUGLAS (ARIZONA)
 Coral Lorenzen saw a light rise from the ground in Mexican territory. It took on a definite spherical shape and vanished in less than 10 seconds among the stars.
 (M55; Lor. I, 14; Ia, 16)
- 174 21 June 1947 MAURY ISLAND, TACOMA (WASHINGTON)
 Harold A Dahl and others allegedly saw six tyre-shaped objects, 30 m. in diameter, metallic with dark openings, over Puget Sound. One of the objects exploded, showering the witnesses with metal. Officially regarded as a hoax.
 (M56; Arnold; Ruppelt; MUFOB 1:6)
- 175 21 June 1947 1150 ST. MARIES (IDAHO)
 Eight disc-shaped objects "the size of a five bed roomed house" were seen flying at 1000 kph over Spokane, Washington, before landing near this town, on the banks of the St Joe River, in a wooded area. Mrs Walter Johnson stated the objects fell with a dead leaf motion in the woods, being seen by 10 persons. No trace of the objects could later be found, nor did the trees appear to have suffered any damage.
 (M57; Atic; D/N iv, 7; Wilkins Aa, 65)
- 176 27 June 1947 1030 BISBEE (ARIZONA)
 John A Petsche, an electrical worker, and five other people independently saw a shiny, disc-shaped object, which appeared to land near Tintown. Among the other witnesses were John Crylance, I W Maxwell and Milton Luna, who were at Cole Hill, 2.4 km. away from Petsche.
 (M58; Lor. I, 16; Lor. Ia, 17)
- 177 30 June 1947 0910 GRAND CANYON, NEAR WILLIAMS FIELD (ARIZONA)
 A Navy lieutenant was flying at 9000 m. towards the south when he saw two circular objects diving at "inconceivable" speed. They were grey, about 3 m. in diameter, and appeared to land 40 km. south of the Grand Canyon.
 (M59; Atic.)

178 early July 1947 2300

STRAITS OF MADAGASCAR

Mrs A M King and another lady were standing on the deck of the s.s. "Llandovery Castle", when they observed a bright light approach. It was joined by a powerful searchlight. The lights were on a huge, cigar-shaped object, estimated to be four times the length of the ship, which descended to within 6 m. of the water, about 50 m. away. After a few seconds "flames" shot from the rear of the object, which rose up at great speed. The machine was metallic, without features, except for a band of metal circling it, and appeared to be cut off at the rear. The two ladies found out that an officer and several other passengers had also seen the object.

(FSR 9:3; Lor. Ia, 19)

179 8 July 1947 1200

MUROC AIRFIELD (CALIFORNIA)

An Air Force major observed a metallic object reflecting sunlight, oscillate, go down to ground level, and rise again. Simultaneously it was observed by a captain in Rodgers Dry Lake.

(M60; Atic.)

180 10 July 1947 1145

DOUGLAS (ARIZONA)

Mrs L B Ogle observed a small bright object, which appeared to "quiver" outside her downstairs window, which was 1.5 m. above the ground. The light appeared to be only 17 cm. in diameter.

(Lor. Ia, 19)

181 23 July 1947

BAURU, NEAR PITANGA (BRAZIL)

A group of survey workers ran away as they heard a hissing noise and saw a disc land 50 m. away. Jose C Higgins saw two figures through a window. Later, three beings in shiny clothes and translucent suits, with oversized bald heads, huge round eyes, no eyelashes or eyebrows, and metal boxes on their backs, emerged from the craft. They were over 2 m. tall. They drew the solar system and pointed to Uranus as if to suggest that was their point of origin.

(M181; Round Up, 163; FSR 7:6; Humanoids, 32; Lor. II, 116)

182 13 August 1947 1300

TWIN FALLS, SMOKE RIVER CANYON
(IDAHO)

Two boys and their father saw a sky-blue object 100 m. away and 25 m. above ground. Treetops under it were spinning wildly, although the object itself did not spin. It made a swishing sound. It was shaped like an inverted plate, 7 m. diameter and 3.5 m. thick. There was a red flame on one side of the top.

(M62; Atic.)

183 14 August 1947 0900

RAVEO (ITALY)

R L Johannis saw a disc on the ground and two dwarfs less than 1 m. tall wearing dark blue coveralls with red collarw and belts. They had oversized heads, greenish faces, huge salient dark eyes without eyelashes or eyebrows, but surrounded by a ring-like muscle. They wore something similar to crash helmets. The centres of their belts projected a "vapour" and the witness suffocated, feeling a strong electrical discharge. The creatures had greenish hands, with eight talon-like fingers.

(M63; Humanoids, 2; Magonia; FSR 13:1)

134 20 September 1947

SAN DIEGO (CALIFORNIA)

A coast guard observed a "flaming" object manoeuvre for some time then enter the sea.

(Sanderson II, 36; Wilkins Aa, 72)

185 1948 0200

KAPRI HILLS (ZAMBIA)

For approximately four hours, from 0200 to 0600 hours, Mr H Walton's car was paced by a large white-yellow coloured spherical object, which travelled at high speed with a "peculiar" motion. The object was at treetop height, and about

300 m. away from the car.
(DIGAP)

186 1948 SWASTIKA (CANADA)
Mr Galbraith saw a disc-shaped craft land; associated with it was a humanoid figure.
(M64; Quincy)

187 1948 SWASTIKA (CANADA)
Mr Galbraith saw an object land for the second time. It was cigar-shaped, with three figures.
(M64; Quincy)

188 6 January 1948 1500 CHEHALIS (WASHINGTON)
A number of people including Mrs Zaikowski and some children returning from school saw a man flying above Mrs Zaikowski's barn at about 65 m. He was equipped with silver wings held on to his body by straps, and was manipulating some controls on his chest. As he shot upwards, the wings retracted. Cf cases 5,9,191.
(Keel I, 206)

189 1 February 1948 CIRCLEVILLE (OHIO)
B Stevenson saw a metallic disc-shaped object, diameter 20 m., 2.5 m. thick, giving off a blinding orange light from its central point, hovering above a farm.
(Anatomy, 133)

190 13 February 1948 STOCKTON (KANSAS)
A farmer observed a funnel-shaped object 1.3 m. long hover at low altitude. It rose rapidly away, and a few minutes later a tremendous explosion rocked the entire state.
(Wilkins Aa, 91)

191 9 April 1948 LONGVIEW (WASHINGTON)
Laundry workers Mrs Viola Johnson and James Pitman saw three men with helmets fly past at about 60 m. altitude "at the speed of a freight train". The men had no apparatus save for something resembling guns at their sides. Their arms were not visible. Cf cases 5,9,188.
(Keel I, 207)

192 May 1948 (or following month) 1730 BARROW UPON HUMBER (ENGLAND)
Whilst at a fairground Fred Pearceson saw a circular object which was trailing sparks. It came down on a collision course with the fairground, swooping very low before shooting straight up into the sky.
(David Johnson, via Nigel Watson)

193 25 May 1948 WASSERBILLIG (GERMANY)
Just before Wasserbillig, Hans Klotzbach lost consciousness with severe leg injuries after jumping from a moving train. He awoke in what appeared to be a cabin, bathed in opal-blue, in a saucer-shaped machine. A voice addressed him in German, claiming that "saucer occupants" had taken pity on him, and talked about "catastrophic changes". When Klotzbach recovered consciousness again, he was lying in a field 10 km. from the accident, his injuries healed. Four days had passed.
(FSR 15:5)

194 29 July 1948 INDIANAPOLIS (INDIANA)
An object swept over a road at 10m. altitude.
(M65; Atic.)

195 11 August 1948 1200 HAMEL (MINNESOTA)
Two boys were playing outside when a round, dull grey object, 70 cm. in diameter, 30 cm. thick, landed near them like a balloon, with a metallic noise. It spun, went up, hovered, manoeuvred to avoid telephone lines and trees, and flew away to the northeast. An FBI man from St Paul found an area 70 cm. in diameter where the ground showed signs of extreme pressure.
(M66; Atic; Wilkins Aa, 98)

196 29 August 1948 0503

MAPLEWOOD (OHIO)

A farmer observed a silvery sphere of large dimension rise from a wooded area and hover above his farm, dropping a silvery substance that disintegrated before touching the ground.

(M67; Atic)

197 14 October 1948 0115

BEAR CREEK HARBOUR (NEW YORK)

Two adults observed a glowing object like a "fiery ball" or "burning plane" move at high speed, up and down, then enter Lake Ontario.

(Sanderson II, 226; Rochester (N.Y.) Democrat and Chronicle, 14 October 1948)

198 17 February 1949 night

FRANCE (exact location unknown)

Alain Berard saw a large, bright object land near his farm with a green lightning flash. It became dark. As he approached the craft, the witness saw three figures with stocky short legs, apparently without heads. Frightened, he fired at them three times. A moment later the object took off vertically.

(M69; Oltre il Cielo, Vol. 1)

199 Spring 1949 dusk

LOCH DUNTELCHAIG (SCOTLAND)

Alasdair Drummond and a friend were parked at the north end of the loch. They saw a pale green object, like an oversized soccer ball, in front of them. When they got out, the light faded away.

(MacGregor Ghost Book, 222)

200 19 August 1949

DEATH VALLEY (CALIFORNIA)

Two prospectors are said to have observed a disc-shaped object land. Two dwarfs emerged but were lost in the sand dunes when pursued. The object disappeared.

(M70; Humanoids, 52; Lor II, 116)

201 Autumn 1949

TULSA (OKLAHOMA)

Don Bushnell, plant superintendent with the Southwestern Porcelain Steel Company, saw an object fall in front of his car as his radio was blocked. He applied the brakes, and the object vanished.

NOTES AND REFERENCES - International Catalogue of Type I UFO Reports - Part 3

With this, the third instalment of the catalogue, we have now completed the "pre-Arnold" period of the subject, and begun the area of official and unofficial investigations. The time period of each instalment will be considerably shorter than the several decade sweeps of the issues so far.

A most welcome new development in this field is the catalogue of Argentinian reports prepared by librarian and geographer Dr Oscar Uriondo, starting in FSRCH 12. Entries from this catalogue will be included in the International Catalogue under the prefix U.

A number of additional reports covering the first three issues of the catalogue have come to light. These will be published when we can feel confident that these periods have been exhausted. This will prevent the unnecessary multiplication of listings.

Notes on cases in Part 3

108 This is the third Scottish case in which the idea of an omen has arisen. The book "Strange Things" contains many undated reports (early or mid-nineteenth century) of second sight which bear a very close resemblance to UFO experiences. There is clearly scope for further research here.

109 Cf. the number of cases involving mists.

110 Ball lightning? Swamp gas?

111 Could be swamp gas.

113, 115-122, 124-126, 129, 130 The details of the ghost fighters are from Keel, based on research by Mr Ake Franzen. It is, of course, possible that these reports relate to real aircraft. The general unlikelihood of this and the similarity to the present UFO legend merit the inclusion of these reports.

- 123, 127 These two reports, and vaguer stories of the "phantom bus", came to light at a coroner's inquest on June 15, 1934, on the death in a collision of a motorist, Ian Beaton. The date of 127 is very approximate, and probably should be located earlier in the year.
- 128 Swamp gas?
- 129 The name of the town is given as Kvalsvik in Keel II.
- 132-134, 138-140 How many of these reports refer to anything other than meteorites cannot be guessed. They come under the category of Type I reports as objects entering water.
- 132 The ~~event~~ was reported when the ship returned to Hartlepool. The exact location of the incident is unknown.
- 141 This "contactee" report is the sort of thing which could only be evaluated by a trained psychiatrist. It possesses some interesting features, but the bulk of the later "experiences" are almost certainly dream sequences, though of great psychological significance to the person involved.
- 151 There are reasons to believe that the soldier concerned is Sgt. Dick Wylie. In his letter to Amazing Stories, the witness claimed to have seen "a similar thing in Germany in 1945", which ties in well with this case.
- 152 Unfortunately the date of the Probe magazine concerned was not noted. The letter in Probe was signed by Mrs George Miller. The FS version relates to "a man out hunting". Perhaps someone can clear up this confusion.
- 160-171 How many of these ghost rocket reports relate to meteors, terrestrial rockets etc. it is impossible to say.
- 174 Not much credence should be put on this case.
- 175 The Data-net account gives the date of this case as 3 July 1947. The Air Force date should be more accurate.
- 189 It is possible that this case is the same as case 196.
- 192 Fireball?
- 193 It is impossible to say how accurate this report is; it seems possible that his injuries were less serious than he thought, and the incident was a dream.
- 199 Ball lightning?

Case omitted, from the Magonia catalogue. M51, end of August 1944.

This was the famous "Mattoon Gasser" or "Phantom Anaesthetist" case, and was undoubtedly a case of mass hysteria. The account by Vyner in FSR, which Vallee quotes, is totally exaggerated. For full details see: JOHNSON, D M, "The Phantom Anaesthetist of Mattoon; A Field Study of Mass Hysteria. Journal of Abnormal and Social Psychology, 1945, 40, 175-186.

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Comments on the Catalogue

From: Mr ROGER SANDELL, 133 Cherry Tree Road, Beaconsfield, Bucks.

...Some comments on the MUFOB catalogue. First, one airship case that got missed.

10 April 1897 afternoon

CARLINVILLE (ILLINOIS)

A cigar-shaped object with wings and a canopy alighted on a farm, but sailed off when approached. (New York Herald, 14 April 1897; Fort, New Lands)

On case 13 Heuvelmans' "Wake of the Sea Serpents" shows that this section of the North American coast has produced many sea serpent reports, so this may be a very exaggerated version of such a case. Also from Heuvelmans you may feel this is relevant, (the "Fort Salisbury" case (case 54), published in the last issue.--P.R.) Heuvelmans dismisses this report as a hoax, but this is simply because the Mail described the object as a sea-serpent, which it clearly was not.....

.....Do you intend to include contactee stories? If not, what is the precise criterion for rejection?.....

Peter Rogerson replies:

The Carlinville report appears to be a somewhat inaccurate version of case 24, Nilwood, Illinois. Nilwood is 19 km. from Carlinville.

The "Fort Salisbury" case is discussed in the notes to the catalogue. Readers may be interested in the full account from Heuvelmans' "In the Wake of the Sea Serpents". The story is that of second officer A H Raymer:

"October 28 (1902), 3.5 a.m. — Dark object, with long, luminous trailing wake, thrown in relief by a phosphorescent sea, seen ahead, a little on starboard bow. Look-out reported two masthead lights ahead. These two lights, almost as bright as a steamer's lights, appeared to shine from two points in line on the upper surface of the dark mass.

"Concluded dark mass was a whale and lights phosphorescent. On drawing nearer dark mass and lights sank below the surface. Prepared to examine the wake in passing with binoculars.

"Passed about forty to fifty yards on port side of wake, and discovered it was the scaled back of some huge monster slowly disappearing below the surface. Darkness of the night prevented determining its exact nature, but scales of apparently 1 ft. diameter and dotted in places with barnacle growth were plainly discernable. The breadth of the body showing above water tapered from about 30 ft., close abaft where the dark mass had appeared to be about 5 ft. at the extreme end visible. Length roughly about 500 ft. to 600 ft.

"Concluded that the dark mass first seen must have been the creature's head. The swirl caused by the monster's progress could be distinctly heard, and a strong odour like that of a low tide beach on a summer's ~~day~~ day pervaded the air. Twice along its length the disturbance of the water and a broadening of the surrounding belt of phosphorescence indicated the presence of huge fins in motion below the surface.

"The wet, shiny back of the monster was dotted with twinkling phosphorescent lights, and was encircled with a band of white phosphorescent sea.

"Such are the bare facts of the passing of the sea-serpent in latitude 5° 31' S, longitude 4° 42' W, as seen by myself, being officer of the watch, and

by the helmsman and look-out man". (pp 367-368)

As to the question of contact claims, in general such reports are included, unless there is good evidence of their falsehood. One major criterion is that all reports involving faked and dubious looking photographs are rejected. The same for reports involving other dubious "physical evidence". Also eliminated are the so-called "mental contact" cases as these clearly do not fall into our Type I criteria. In fact all the professional contactees of the early 1950s (Adamski, Fry, Menger, Angelucci, Bethurum, Nelson, Von Tassel, Green, etc.) are eliminated.

From: Mr NIGEL WATSON, (Chairman of the Scunthorpe UFO Society), 1 Angerstein Road, Scunthorpe, Lincolnshire, DN17 2LZ

Thanks for the letter and for the MUFOBs. You gave my article quite a good presentation, and I was interested in the beginning of your International Catalogue of Type I Reports, and I must agree with Stephen Smith's comments on it. When it is completed, it should be a valuable reference source.

I feel we should go deeper into this type of compilation. You have seen my coverage of Scunthorpe reports which I compiled (to be published in a future issue of MUFOB-P.R.) and I intend to eventually finish my compilation of Lincolnshire reports.

I think country-wide compilations can be just as useful, and if an organisation such as BUFORA had put its mind to it we could by now have a county-by-county guide which would be of much help to ufologists. I should perhaps like to write a future article for MUFOB on this, as it is an interesting line of study.

Of course you are writing up Type I reports made in Britain...which should be very interesting; above I am, of course, referring to all types of reports and not just to Type I, which are rarer.

Your seminar sounds interesting, "high strangeness" UFO reports are perhaps the most interesting....

Peter Rogerson replies:

Readers who have comments on Mr Watson's idea should let us hear about them.

From: Senor VINCENTE-JUAN BALLESTER OLMOS, Erudito Orellana 14, VALENCIA-8, Spain.

Your letter of 27 December 1972 is at hand. It arrived today. What a pity for such a tremendous delay. I have found the MUFOB issues very interesting and, in particular, the results of your work on Type I reports, a most promising field within ufology. I am sure that our mutual co-operation will prove satisfactory. This letter acts as an acknowledgement of receipt, and in a few days I shall despatch to you a computer listing of my current up-to-date catalogue of landing cases in the Iberian Peninsula (which now stands at 150.).

Yes, you have complete freedom to print the cases I have compiled, provided you adjust yourself to the information I give, sources, etc., a thing that I know you will take into account as a normal standard.

I have a colleague working on the summaries of all the new entries to my catalogue, and I shall certainly send you a copy of this document as soon as I have it finished and typed. I want you to understand that FSR forgot to publish the two last summaries from my list, but you will find them in the Data-net version, for instance. Speaking of Data-net, this is a journal much associated with scientific UFO research, that you should spread among your colleagues and, in general, among all the serious, university-trained UFO students.....

Peter Rogerson replies:

We are grateful for Snr. Ballester's offer of co-operation. It is ironic that we have received far more co-operation from American, Continental and "unofficial" British UFO researchers than from the "establishment" ufologists in Britain. The letter I wrote to FSR on the proposed Type I study in Britain brought one effective reply, from Nigel Watson, and one promise of aid which has not materialised to date. One UFO group I wrote to did not even have the courtesy to reply. Nothing has to date materialised from BUFORA.

Snr. Ballester mentions the "serious, university trained UFO students". Unfortunately most of these have given up active study of the subject, while the cranks and the self-publicists who write sensational articles in the Sunday press go from strength to strength.

We agree with Snr. Ballester's comments on Bata-net, which is edited by Mrs Jo Clark, at 7900 Harvard Drive, Ben Lomond, California 95005. All serious UFO researchers are recommended to write to Mrs Clark. It is of note that Jo publishes c.20 A4 pages a month of serious scientific articles, and many news clippings. This effectively gives the lie to the claims of some British UFO editors that they are overworked and could not possibly publish substantial journals in their spare time.

From: Mr PETER MADDOCK, (Secretary of the Institute of Parascience) Sprytown, Lifton, Devon,

We'll be glad to exchange literature, and Parascience 3:8 is enclosed. They come out at quarterly intervals.

Some of our members reject conventional explanations for UFOs, and think the phenomena are likely to have a more complex basis than people generally imagine. This view seems to be justified by anomalies in the Condon Report and by various "high strangeness" sightings.

You are doing a valuable service in producing your catalogue, and the conference to discuss strangeness ought to be useful.

I'm not able to devote very much attention to UFOs myself these days, but some of our members may welcome an opportunity for active collaboration with Merseyside. We'll be glad to receive any suggestions you care to make about this. I think that there are novel lines of investigation that could be explored.

Peter Rogerson replies:

I can recommend Parascience Notes to anyone interested in the application of modern concepts of physics to parapsychology. Serious UFO researchers interested in possible applications of "paranormal" concepts in UFO research are advised to contact Mr Maddock.

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Editorial Panel

JOHN HARNEY, 53 Woodyear Road, Bromborough, WIRRAL, Cheshire, L62 6AY
Telephone: 051-327 2146

JOHN A RIMMER, ALA, 6 Norgate Street, LIVERPOOL, L4 0RH

PETER ROGERSON, 8 Braddon Avenue, Urmston, MANCHESTER, M31 1UE

ALAN W SHARP, B.Sc, B.Eng, FRAS, FGS, 22a Fairfield Road, Widnes, Lancashire.
Telephone: 051-424 8860

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